

ahead and let the bids if that is a problem. You wouldn't have to wait. You could fall within that time. I never said once that it was a rash or quick decision, Senator Marsh. I've stated, as Senator Lamb pointed out unequivocally, that I will support this bill. Senator Marsh, a public hearing doesn't justify that the bill should be passed by any means. We've had a public hearing on the bill that we just debated for a hour and a half that dealt with the tax on catalog goods and there was a very heated discussion in that area. Senator Warner pointed out the real issue, that this is a deficit appropriation. There are a number of deficit appropriations, as he stated. We dealt with them in the special session back in November and December. We are going to probably continue to deal with those as the years go by, or you will, I don't know that I'll be here. But the interesting thing is that it is a piece of broken equipment. That point was brought out. Are we going to continue to bring in pieces of broken equipment as a deficit appropriation? I find it an interesting way to deal with this problem. It is unique. Senator Warner is right. It is very unique and it is very important to the state. Senator Lamb, I'll support the bill today, too. But I think we need to take a look at what we are doing. We need to say there are some issues out there that are very important, this is one of them. But we have yet to look beyond this budget year. We need to start looking at '87-88. It is just one of those things that is going to be very expensive, very important. But there are going to be others that we are going to deal with that fall in that same category. Granted, they won't fall in the budget year that we are dealing with. But they are going to fall in the budget year that we are looking at currently, that we are going to try to raise revenues for, that we are going to make decisions on where our expenditures go. We're going to discuss possible new programs that are going to cost a lot of money. We need to address that early on in this session. This is the best vehicle I had to stand up and talk to that. I support the tower in Bassett. The federal funds, as Senator Warner suggested, are...you know we have the possibility of having to pay those back. I think when the tower was put up the cost, at that time, was \$485,000. The cost to replace it, at this time, is \$1.5 million. If we waited any longer it could rise. I understand that. I think we should do it. The people in Senator Rogers' district deserve that. They deserve nothing less. But the real issue, as Senator Warner pointed out, is that the budget has to be dealt with and we need to take a look at what we are doing in the way of deficit appropriations. It is not going to change, I don't think, in the next year or two. But we need to make some tough